

THE ROANOKE DAILY TIMES.

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ROANOKE, VA., FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1897.

FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS TELEGRAMS.
ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD.

THE WEATHER
Forecast for Virginia: Generally fair but with increasing cloudiness Friday; northerly winds, shifting to easterly; warmer Friday night.

Pocahontas Coal
And all other kinds at
EARMAN & FLIPPO,
Phone 68.

Got a Headache?
Scott's Headache Powder is made to cure headache, and they do it at once, no matter from what cause. Not necessary to wait two or three days for a sick headache to wear away. Four doses 10 cents. Sent by mail on receipt of price.

MASSIE'S PHARMACY,
109 JEFFERSON STREET.

WE ARE PLEASED
To announce that all articles bought from us can be engraved, most all price of charge—some few special bargains engraving is charged extra.
A POINTER
WATCHES ARE NOW CHEAPER THAN EVER BEFORE, OR WILL BE LIKELY TO BE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE WATCH COMPANIES ARE TALKING OF RAISING THE PRICES.
EXAMINATION SOLICITED.

EDWARD S. GREEN
Manufacturing Jeweler,
6 SALEM AVE.

Have "CARDONETTES" made now for the holidays.

Lineback
PHOTOGRAPHER,
212 South Jefferson Street, Over Postoffice.

Great Variety of
STIEFF, HAINES and SCHILLER
PIANOS.
Latest Styles.
Will Give Low Prices and Easy Terms.
Holiday Stock.
J. E. ROGERS,
No. 11 Jefferson Street.

Say!
Our yellow kid says they have all our Xmas money "tied up" at the Commercial, and he is about right. We offer special prices in remaining Holiday goods to get even.

H. C. BARNES,
"He Puts Up Prescriptions."

TO VISIT MR. HANNA.
Canton, O., Dec. 31.—Saturday morning Major and Mrs. McKinley will leave Canton for Cleveland. In that city they will be the guests of the National Chairman and Mrs. Hanna for about a week, at least that is the present arrangement. The object of the visit, it is understood, is to consult with Mr. Hanna upon arrangements for the inaugural ceremonies, matters of future policy, Cabinet and monetary conference. It is also believed that Mr. and Mrs. Hanna will leave after the week is over for Thomasville, Ga., to spend the remainder of the month.

E. H. Burger, specialist on fine and complicated watches.
The Farmers' Supply Company, market square, not only carry a full line of farmers' supplies, but many things for our city friends—hay, chop, bran, corn, oats, etc., at the lowest prices.

A TRIUMPH FOR AMERICAN SHIPBUILDERS.

Japan Comes to This Country for Two War Vessels.

THE CRAMPS, OF PHILADELPHIA, AND THE UNION IRON WORKS, OF SAN FRANCISCO, SECURE CONTRACTS TO BUILD TWO CRUISERS FOR THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT—THEY WERE SUCCESSFUL OVER ENGLAND, FRANCE AND GERMANY.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Minister Hoshi, of Japan, today signed contracts for two new cruisers for the Japanese navy to be built in American shipyards, one by the Cramp Shipbuilding Company, of Philadelphia, and the other by the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco. It was the conclusion of negotiations covering many months and was gratifying alike to the minister and the companies, who were represented by their respective heads, Charles H. Cramp and Irving T. Scott.

The award to American builders was based not only on the merits of American ships, American armor, and American materials, but was a distinct recognition on the part of Japan of the kindly offices of the United States during the recent Japan-China war and of the cordial feeling between this country and the growing young empire of the East.

The contracts were signed at the Japanese legation, where was present for the occasion the minister and his official staff, a delegation of Japanese naval experts, consisting of Commander K. Narita, Constructor S. Sakura, and Constructor Takakura, and Messrs. Cramp and Scott. The naval experts have been in this country some months visiting American yards and critically inspecting the warships which have been built for the American navy. At the same time other experts were inspecting the yards in England, France and Germany, and a keen competition arose as to which country would be first to secure a contract. That made today proves to be the first and in this respect is somewhat of a personal triumph for the Japanese minister at Washington and his naval associates, who have done their utmost to press upon the Japanese government the equality of the American shipbuilding.

The contract calls for the completion and delivery of the ships by December 31, 1898. They are to be of 4,700 tons each and of the following dimensions: Length, 374 feet 6 inches; extreme breadth, 48 feet 9 inches; depth, 30 feet 6 inches; draft, mean, 17 feet 9 inches. They are to be of the type generally known as protected cruisers of the second class and will be somewhat similar to the United States cruiser Columbia. The hull will be of steel but without armor. The deck will be protected with six inches of steel.

The armament of each will be as follows: Two 8 inch guns, one at foremast and one at poop; twelve 12 centimeter guns, six on each side, as broadside; twelve 12-pounders, also arranged as broadside, six on each side; six 212-pounders; five torpedo tubes. The cost of the vessels will be about \$5,000,000.

CUBAN AUTONOMY.

The Spanish Council at Madrid Has Decided Upon a Program.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The form of autonomy which Spain is willing to grant to Cuba was decided upon in Madrid today at a council of the ministry, presided over by the queen regent. The decree still lacks the official endorsement of the cortes, but this, it is believed, will be easily obtainable when the conditions have reached such a point when the authorities believe the reforms can be introduced in Cuba. This information reached the Spanish legation to-night and Minister de Lome said to-night:

"The objects of the reforms in Cuba and Porto Rico is to transfer to the council of administration of each island powers which hitherto have been exercised in Madrid. The reforms announced state that this council of administration is to be composed in the case of Porto Rico of six provincial assemblymen of the region in which the next biennial election shall take place, and six councilors appointed by the supreme government."

"The council is to deliberate upon the general estimates of expenditures and revenues of the island; upon the general accounts; upon the removals or suspensions of mayor or aldermen and upon the petitions for legislative reforms that emanate from the provincial assembly."

"The provincial assembly shall resolve, in accordance with the laws and regulations, whatever it may deem proper for the management of the whole island."

"It shall be the duty of the governor-general, as supreme chief of the authorities of the island, to carry out the resolutions of the council."

"Although the budget for the island must be finally voted upon by the Spanish parliament, the Antilles send numerous and powerful representation to the cortes, enjoying in this respect a great advantage over the English colonies."

LORD BERESFORD INJURED.

London, Dec. 31.—Lord William Beresford was seriously hurt, while hunting on Wednesday last. His horse rolled on top of him and he was unconscious for several hours. Lord William recently married the widow of the late Duke of Marlborough, who is the daughter of Commodore Price, United States navy. The date of the accident to Lord Beresford show he was hunting with the stag hounds at Dorking, Surrey, when his horse fouled a fence of the Gatwick race course, turned a complete somersault and fell full on his rider.

Oysters in all styles by Norfolk cooks. The best in town. Try them. J. J. Catogini.

TO-MORROW

Will Close Our Great Reduction Sale.

We have a few very handsome pieces of Chinaware and Cut Glass, which will be sold at less than half their value. Your last chance at such handsome goods for the price.

Subscriptions Taken for Magazines.

THOMPSON-PRICE CO.

CARRIED A CARGO FOR CUBAN PATRIOTS.

The Commodore Began Her Voyage Yesterday.

CLEARANCE PAPERS WERE ISSUED UNDER PROTEST FROM THE SPANISH CONSUL—IT IS NOTHING BUT A FILIBUSTERING TRIP—STEPHEN CRANE, THE NOVELIST, SHIPS AS A SEAMAN. THE THREE FRIENDS IN THE HANDS OF THE LAW.

Jacksonville, Dec. 31.—The steamer Commodore cleared at the custom house at 5 o'clock this afternoon with a cargo of arms and ammunition consigned to Salvador Cisneros, president of the Cuban republic, at Cienfuegos, Cuba. A crew of twenty seamen were carried, despite the fact that the Commodore is only of 99 tons register. Most of these were Cubans. Among the number was Stephen Crane, the novelist, who signed as a seaman at \$20 per month.

The cargo consists of the following: 1,000 pounds of dynamite, two boxes of electric apparatus, 200 rifles, 283,000 cartridges, 300 machetes, 14 boxes of drugs and three bundles of clothing.

Clearance papers were issued notwithstanding that a formal protest was made by Senator Solis, Spanish consul for Florida, which was made in writing to the collector. The grounds were that the rules and regulations of ports of entry to Cuba prohibit the importation of munitions of war, except upon the written permission of the governor general of the island, and also upon the ground that it is the best belief of the consul that the arms were to be used by the insurgents against the kingdom of Spain, and also the port to which they are consigned.

The Spanish consul also refused to give the clearance papers, which is a necessary requisite in going to a foreign port, for the reason that the regulations do not permit the importations of arms upon the island without a permit, and this Captain Murphy did not have.

The consul issued a certificate, however, stating his refusal and the reason therefor.

The Commodore went down the river about 8 o'clock, an officer from the revenue cutter Boutwell having been placed on board to see that no one should be taken on board while going down the river. The officer was instructed to leave the boat at the mouth of the river. It is not believed that the Commodore will attempt to land its cargo at Cienfuegos, but will make a landing at some convenient point along the Cuban coast.

The steamer Three Friends arrived in port shortly after noon to-day from Key West, with Peter O. Knight, deputy collector of customs at Key West, on board. Mr. Knight at once reported to Collector of Customs Bisbee, and the latter, acting under the instructions from Washington, had an officer from the Boutwell placed on board. The boat will be held until it shall be libeled by the district deputy, who was out of the city to-day.

NOT JUST YET.

The Arbitration Cannot be Signed For Some Time to Come.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The new treaty between the United States and Great Britain, by which all differences between the two countries for the next five years are to be referred to arbitration will not be signed at present. Mr. Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote closed the negotiations about seventeen days ago and the final draft was made and forwarded to Lord Salisbury.

As it embodied all the features which had been agreed upon during the negotiations, no doubt was felt that a speedy approval would be given by Lord Salisbury and that the signature to the instrument thereupon would be affixed at Washington.

It was expected that the document would be signed coincident with the new year, but this expectation will not be realized and the signatures, it is stated, cannot possibly be affixed before the end of next month. The causes for the delay cannot be stated, but they are sufficient to defer the consummation of the treaty. In the meantime there is no reason to believe that the prospects of ultimate agreement are less favorable than they have been, the delay doubtless being due to some unessential question, as there is complete understanding on all material questions.

WANT WEYLER REMOVED.

Madrid, Dec. 31.—The Imparcial to-day prints a violent article on the military government of Cuba and urges that Captain-General Weyler be replaced by Gen. Azcarraaga, the present Spanish minister of war. The Imparcial publishes an article similar to that of the Imparcial, and they caused a great sensation. Both issues were seized by the police.

THIS BANK'S OFFICER COMMITTED SUICIDE.

A Tragic Sequel to the Failure at Selma.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SELMA COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK THROWS OFF HIS BUSINESS TROUBLES BY SHOOTING HIMSELF THROUGH THE HEAD. HIS BANK WAS HEAVILY INDEBTED TO NORTHERN AND WESTERN CONCERNS.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 31.—George B. Wilkins, vice president of the Commercial National Bank of Selma, which failed for \$500,000 yesterday, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head in the Episcopal Church at Selma at 4 o'clock this morning. He had been vice-president of the bank and treasurer of the church for thirty years and was one of the best known men in the State. Wilkins was treasurer of the Episcopal diocese of Alabama and a devoted church member. In his distress he sought refuge in his church, where he remained all night, and on the appearance of searching friends at the church door this morning he fired the bullet into his brain. His accounts with the bank are thought to be all right and distress at the failure is ascribed as the cause of his self destruction.

New York, Dec. 31.—The Evening Post to-day says:

"Some very unpleasant stories were in circulation this morning in connection with the failure of the Commercial Bank of Selma, Ala., which was announced yesterday. These rumors included talk of the existence of some fraudulent or forged paper which it was said had been put out by the bank. So far as can be ascertained to-day, however, the only basis for this report was the sale by the vice-president of the bank, George Wilkins, to a firm of foreign bankers in this city, of a draft in reichsmarks, equivalent to about \$16,000, which was subsequently returned unpaid from Germany. The draft bore the endorsement, of course, of the Selma bank, and when it was returned unpaid the foreign bankers, it is said, obtained security for the payment of the draft, but what explanation was given for the drawing and sale of an unauthorized draft is not known."

"Vice-President Wilkins sold the draft when he was just passing through the town. It was learned to-day that the total amount in seven or eight banks in this city to the credit of the Commercial Bank of Selma, exceeds \$800,000, or \$150,000 more than the amount stated in yesterday's Post, and that the total amount owing by the bank for borrowed money in this city, Louisville, Cincinnati and Chicago, is about \$800,000. The largest creditor in this city is the National City Bank, the amount owing to it exceeding \$100,000. All the banks hold collateral for their loans, but they are considered of rather doubtful value under the constitution and law of Alabama, which makes depositors of a bank preferred creditors. All banks in this city to whom money is owing by the Selma bank have been fully aware of its condition for the last two or three months and have had a joint agent in Selma looking after their interests. One or two of the banks, however, broke their agreement and precipitated the failure."

REFORMED HER WAYS.

Gibraltar, Dec. 31.—The American steamship Laurada, formerly engaged as a filibuster from the United States to Cuba and whose proposed landing at Valencia, in Spain, caused apprehension of an unfriendly demonstration, has arrived here from Messina, laden with fruit. The Laurada took on coal and sailed for Baltimore without any friction with the inhabitants. The captain stated that the steamer had no arms or ammunition on board.

Nothing would make a nicer Christmas present than one of those handsome robes at Farmers' Supply Company.

Some dealers sell a combination of coal and slack. We sell them separately. Farmers' Supply Company.

OUR MOTTO.

HONEST GOODS! FAIR PRICES! SURE METHODS!

Same Old Thing—Good for You—Good for Us—Largest stock—Earliest Terms.

RICHMOND MUSIC CO.
O. T. JENNINGS, Mgr., Roanoke, Va.

EXISTENCE OF A PAPER TRUST DENIED.

The Tariff Hearings the Scene of a Controversy.

THE MANUFACTURERS TRYING TO CONCEAL THE ALLEGED EXISTENCE OF AN ENORMOUS COMBINATION—THE CHARGE IS MADE BY A NEWSPAPER MANAGER, WHO SAYS THE ONLY OBJECT IS TO RAISE THE PRICE OF NEWS PAPER.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The disputed existence of a paper trust was a bone of contention before the ways and means committee this afternoon and furnished the most interesting episode of the tariff hearings up to date. There was a warm controversy between John Norris, the business manager of the New York World, who attacked the alleged trust, and ex-Congressman William A. Russell, of Massachusetts, who is reputed to be at the head of the combination, and ex-Senator Warner Miller, of Herkimer, N. Y., who has large interests in paper manufacturing.

Mr. Norris gave a detailed description of what he understood to be the purposes of the trust. It was formed by twenty or twenty-five of the managers of the largest mills in the country, he declared, controlling 93 per cent. of the output of white paper used for newspapers and had for one of its objects the advancement of the price of the product from the current rate of two cents a pound to 2 1/2 cents.

The combination had been first talked of at meetings of the manufacturers held a year and a half ago and all its details had been agreed upon by the paper men, while the lawyers were now engaged in drawing up the legal papers, which, he had been informed, would be perfected within forty-eight hours. The agents who would represent the trust in London, New York, Chicago and San Francisco, had been selected and Mr. Russell had been decided upon for the presidency of the corporation. The result would be increased profits of four or five millions to the stockholders and a tax on knowledge coming out of the pockets of all citizens. He suggested that publishers might start paper plants of their own if the trust succeeded, and while making no recommendations as to duties said that Congress should take action against the combination.

Messrs. Russell and Miller denied absolutely the existence of a trust. They said that the manufacturers of paper had met a year and a half ago thinking that by means of a combination they might reduce expenses a million and a half a year by dispensing with many agents and supplying all orders from the nearest mills. This project had failed because of their inability to agree upon valuations upon their plants. There was now under consideration an arrangement by which all the mills would be represented by the same agents, but Mr. Russell and Mr. Miller declared they had no hope that it would be consummated and in any event there had been no talk among the manufacturers of raising prices.

Mr. Miller being asked by Mr. Norris whether the formation of the trust was not being delayed by the demand of the American Manufacturing Company to be appraised at \$400,000, denied that this was the case.

WALCOTT GOING ABROAD.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Senator Walcott, of Colorado, the chairman of the Senate special committee to arrange for a bimetallic conference of the nations of the world, is going abroad to confer with European bimetallicists on the subject. The purposes of his visit are known and approved by President-elect McKinley and his trip is made at the request of his associates on the Senatorial committee.

A FUGITIVE KILLED.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 31.—A Seaboard Air Line freight train parted near Maxton this morning, the two sections coming together later in a wreck. One man was killed, a fugitive from justice named John Greenham, who was in one of the cars. Nobody else was hurt. Near Selma this afternoon two freights of the Southern railway collided, five empty cars being derailed and burned up. The fireman was badly scalded.

Don't fail to examine our line of buggy robes. Best in the city. Prices the very lowest. Farmers' Supply Company.

Farmers' Supply Company, market square, can furnish you any kind of coal that you may desire—nice and clean.

For buggy, surry and wagon harness, bridles, blankets, etc., go to Farmer's Supply Company.

A HIGH RATE OF COMMERCIAL MORTALITY.

Bradstreet's Brief Report on the Trade of 1896.

A LARGE NUMBER OF VERY BAD FAILURES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY DURING THE PAST YEAR—TRADE DURING THE WEEK HAS BEEN THE DULLEST OF THE YEAR—EXPORTS OF FLOUR CONTINUE HEAVY.

New York, Dec. 31.—Bradstreet's on Saturday will say:

General trade has been rather more quiet and this week proves one of the dullest of the dull season which has followed the fortnight of revived demand early in November. The unbusiness last week caused by Northwestern bank failures is continued by similar embarrassments at Chicago and Minneapolis. These bank failures seem to be the outcome of conditions originating in the banks and not due to the situation of general trade.

Unseasonable weather, the marking of inventories and the customary absence of demand in wholesale lines have combined to produce more than the usual holiday dullness. More favorable reports include heavy exports of flour and general merchandise from Tacoma to China and Japan, the receipt at Chicago of a satisfactory amount of orders for dry goods for spring delivery and an increased total volume of business in 1896 among St. Louis shoe manufacturers and jobbers in dry goods as compared with 1895.

Exports of wheat, flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States amounts to 2,707,793 bushels as compared with 2,111,000 bushels last week, 3,457,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 1,814,000 bushels two years ago, and with 2,925,000 bushels in the corresponding week of 1895. Exports of Indian corn this week amount to 2,656,994 bushels against 2,468,000 bushels last week, 1,839,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 649,000 bushels two years ago, and as compared with 244,000 bushels in the like week of 1892.

Total business failures in the United States in 1896, in which the liabilities exceeded the assets, number 15,112, an increase of 16 per cent. over 1895, when the total increased 2 per cent., compared with 1894, in which year failures fell off 18 per cent. from 1893, when the total was 15,580, the largest on record. Total liabilities of those failing in 1896 amounted to \$247,000,000, 55 per cent. more than last year and 65 per cent. more than in the year 1894, being exceeded only by the total liabilities in the year 1893, \$402,000,000. The ratio of assets to liabilities among those failing in 1896 was 60 per cent., an evidence of an unusually high rate of mortality, which is exceeded only by the corresponding exhibit of 1893. The commercial death rate was in 1896 1.4 per cent., by which is meant that 1.4 per cent. of every 100 individuals, firms and corporations in business last year failed. This death rate was exceeded only by that in 1895, when it was 1.5; in 1895 the commercial death rate was 1.23, and in 1894 1.21 per cent.

There are 2,179 business failures reported from the Dominion of Canada for 1896, an increase of 303. The larger proportion of the gain is accounted for by an increase of 130 business failures in Ontario and 21 in the province of Quebec and 41 in Nova Scotia. The increase of about 14 per cent. in number of business failures in the Dominion is accompanied by a gain of only 7 per cent. in aggregate liabilities, which in 1896 amounted to \$16,208,000.

ANOTHER RIDER OUT.

Washington, Dec. 31.—One more rider to-day surrendered his chances for a portion of the prize money in the big six days international bicycle race at Convention Hall. Chappelle, the Englishman, was the latest who has proven unable to keep up the terrific pace set by the leaders. The closing score to-night was: Waller, 583; Maddox, 582.11; Ashinger, 582.4; Lawson, 581.2; Hunter, 580.9; Foster, 579.5.

Do you ride horseback? You can see the finest line of saddles ever brought to this city at Farmers' Supply Company.

IF YOU HAVE A cough get a bottle of **Scott's Compound Syrup of Horehound**, Wild Cherry and White Pine. It has cured others and will cure you. Twenty-five cents a bottle at **MASSIE'S PHARMACY.**

Piano Bargains!

New Upright Piano, . . . \$200
Fancy Case Upright, . . . \$250
Fine Mahogany Upright, . . \$300

And Many More Similar Bargains at

Hobbie Piano Co.

Sold on Easy Payments, Without Interest.